



News Release

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Local Government

Feasibility study for establishment of a rural community to be completed (07/03/01)

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FREDERICTON (CNB) - Measures have been taken by the Department of Local Government to complete the feasibility study begun in 2005, regarding the potential establishment of the local service districts (LSDs) of Cocagne, Grande-Digue, and Shediac Bridge-Shediac River as a rural community, Local Government Minister Victor Boudreau announced today.

In order to do so, a community roundtable chaired by Neil LeBlanc from Grande-Digue was established. The roundtable is made up of 20 residents representing various community organizations, businesspeople and service providers from the three LSDs.

The mandate of the roundtable is to represent the various community interests as part of the feasibility study process. Working sessions have taken place in January and February, with the next session scheduled for March 13.

"The feasibility study will enable residents of the three LSDs to assess if and how a rural community might better serve the needs and interests of the community than the current LSD model," Boudreau said. "The broader community, including residents, community organizations, service providers, and businesspeople of the three LSDs will also be consulted as part of the feasibility study in April and May."

Should the feasibility study determine that the conditions for establishing a rural community are favourable, all residents qualified to vote in each LSD will have the opportunity to vote in a plebiscite to be held in June to determine the level of local support in each LSD for the establishment of a rural community.

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